

Steps & District Community Council
Minute of Meeting Thursday 2 November 2022 at 7.30pm
Steps Cultural Centre, St Andrew's Way

Present: Councillors Alice Morton (Chair), Campbell Provan (Treasurer), Ken Maxwell, Eddie Ceresa, Craig Cowan, Iain MacGregor, Paul Noble and **Sheila Stuart**

Lorraine Kerr, Steps Primary Parent Council (Chair), PC John Fleming, Malcolm Close (Chair) Steps/Les Marches Twinning Association

Elected Members: Cllr Josh Cairns

Apologies: Cllr John McLaren, Gerry Campbell, Kate Houston, Andrew McPherson
NLC Community Co-ordinator, Sameeha Reman Secretary

Public: 8 persons

1.0 Opening Remarks/Introductions

1.1 Chair Alice Morton welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies were received as noted above.

3.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

3.1 Proposed by Eddie Ceresa. Seconded by Campbell Provan.

4.0 Executive Reports

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Campbell Provan

'I have received a bank statement dated 30 September 2022 in the amount of £3800.96 of which £998 is Mining Memorial money.

Since the last report two cheques have been written, one to replace the missing cheque to Steps Parish Church and one for the purchase of a wreath to be laid at the war memorial.'

Campbell replied to the matter regarding a charge for cancelling a cheque and stated that no charge was incurred.

5.0 Police Scotland

PC Fleming delivered the following report in person.

Figures for Period of 1/10/22 to 1/11/22 are as follows

55 calls in total 12 calls have resulted in Crimes

3 of these crimes have been detected i.e. persons identified/ charged with offences

The breakdown of crimes are as follows:

8 x Road Traffic offences, 2 x crimes of Theft/ Attempt theft, 2 x Assault

In the past month there appears to be an increase of Road Traffic offences whereby cars have been damaged as result of collision and persons have driven off.

The Thefts also relate to having Vehicle registration plates stolen which would more than likely be used for further criminality.

He provided comments on quad bikes, replied to questions about 101 call service and call grader, the reduction in police officers and that an email address was available to report any concerns.

Lorraine Kerr thanked him for the attention given to parking at Stepps Primary School.

The Chair thanked PC Fleming for his continued support and engagement with the Community Council.

6.0 Actions/Matters arising from previous minute

The Chair gave the October Update Dunalastair Drive Play Area provided by NLC Project Delivery Team.

Unfortunately, no tender returns were received from contractors per September deadline. However, NLC are working to re-tender as soon as possible and a further update will follow, including outcome from the tender process.

7.0 Environmental Report

Community Councillor Tom Forrester reported on the following below and will also report the recent flooding in Church Avenue.

7.1 Collapsed fence in Whitehill Farm Road - Reported to Caledonian Estates at the request of a resident. It has since been examined and found that the mesh wire had in fact been cut by persons unknown. Caledonian Estates has now replaced the damaged fence as an unofficial public right-of-way offset wooden fence.

7.2 Self-seeding trees in Whitehill Farm site - Caledonian Estates have confirmed that these have been scheduled to be cut back.

7.3 Derelict lock up in Whitehill Farm Road - Tenders have been received for the derelict asbestos lock up in Whitehill farm Road. It has been listed for demolition on receipt of estimates which have been asked for. A fence will be installed in its place

7.4 Fly-Tipping -The Chair stated that she had reported fly-tipping on the Lenzie Road. She also reported on a dead deer on the grass verge of the Lenzie Road. Cllr Cairns said he would action its removal.

7.5 Community Defibrillators - Community Councillor Eddie Ceresa reported that M&D Green are interested and are looking to install these to all their pharmacies in the new year. I have had no official confirmation. The Well Being Rooms have offered to donate £100. No other response has been received. A discussion followed with the suggestion to invite Auchinloch Community Council to a meeting to learn about the process undertaken in Auchinloch.

Residents reported that defibrillators were installed internally at the Garfield Hotel and Bannatyne's Health Club.

7.6 Stepps Community Development Trust - The Planter tidy up took place on Sunday 23 October 9am -11am. Having entered a participation request with North Lanarkshire Council, Stepps CDT plan to maintain the planters twice yearly. It wants to thank all the gardeners who helped. The Trust is always looking for volunteers to help its efforts in the neighbourhood. Get in touch at steppscdt@gmail.com if you are interested.

7.7 *Festive Decorations* - no progress on this item. The Chair reported that Gartcosh Tenants and Residents Association had written to NLC about this because no funding had been allocated to the Northern Corridor- only to Town Centres. No reply had been received.

8.0 Steps Community Facilities - Daytime Access

A joint meeting of Steps Parent Council and the Community Council took place on 12 October 2022 to scrutinise the plans for the above project and provide feedback to NLC.

A letter has been forwarded to Douglas Holmes, Forward Planning Manager with the response of the meeting and a request for a second meeting.

The plans/drawings were displayed at the meeting providing an opportunity for attendees to comment and hear some of the issues as raised.

The consultation period for the reinstatement of Steps Cultural Centre and daytime access to community spaces ended on 26th October. NLC will be in touch with an ongoing update.

9.0 Planning Matters

9.1 Applications 22/01259/PRN, 22/01085/FUL, 22/01022/FUL, 22/00674/FUL were noted.

9.2 The meeting was advised that NLC's Biodiversity Officer continues to seek discussion with the housing developers on the site at Gateside Farm regarding compensatory measures that can be achieved with regards to the Site of Importance for Nature Conservation at the Bluebell Dell following its pollution earlier this year. NLC does not own the woodland and any habitat improvements would need to be approved by the landowner.

10.0 Ward 5 Councillor Briefing

Cllr Cairns reported that he continues to be involved in issues related to litter bins and the Steps Community Facilities. He was thanked for his attendance at the meeting.

11.0 Les Marches Visit 28-31 October 2022

Malcolm Close (Chair) reported that the visit and exchange programme had been hugely successful and thanked the Community Council for its support and exchange gifts.

12.0 - Northern Corridor Community Board

Next meeting Wednesday 23rd November 2022, 6.30 – 8.30pm.

- **Northern Corridor Community Forum**

Wednesday 7 December 2022 at 7pm

- **Cumbernauld and North Locality Consortium**

Thursday 10 November 2022 at 10am

13.0 AOCB

13.1 Remembrance Sunday 13 November 2022 at 11am.

13.2 NC Community Volunteers Heritage Project

Available to view at the Pivot Centre Moodiesburn.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings 6pm - 9pm until December.

13.3 NLC Community Partnership Team has delivered a new play area, 'The Marvellous Muirhead Park,' for local children and families to enjoy.

13.4 Issues raised by Community Councillors:

- safety concerns about a mature tree leaning over at the path between the Cumbernauld Road and St Andrew's Way.
- the poor state of the road surface on Cumbernauld Rd outside the Cala/Barratt construction site. The road surface was covered in mud from vehicles leaving the site. It seemed clear that no road cleaning was happening as every day the problem was evident. There is a clear road safety issue as the road surface is very slippery plus the mud is getting washed into surface water drains by the rain, causing blockages on both sides of the road.
- absence of tree protections on the Gateside Farm site and changes to the topography of the land. Availability of drone footage was discussed.

13.5 Lorraine Kerr asked that the following be published on the Community Council website.

'The Scottish Government is currently having a National Discussion regarding the future of Scottish Education. They are keen to seek views of anyone with an interest in this topic, with a particular focus on parents, carers and children. The closing date for views is 5th December. Further details can be found here:

<https://consult.gov.scot/national-discussion-scottish-education/>

To aid the parental and carers discussion Connect and National Parent Forum of Scotland (NPFS) are hosting a joint online forum on 9th November. Anyone interested can book a place via this line at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/national-discussion-online-event-for-parentscarers-with-prof-alma-harris-tickets-457090358567>

The National Discussion is running in tandem with the Hayward Review that focuses on assessment and qualifications.'

13.6 A resident reported that the grass at the Bluebell Playpark has been cut but that it required to be done twice-yearly and that a request for this work be submitted.

14.0 Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 1 December at 7.30, Stepps Cultural Centre.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and support.